

Junior Rowland  
Capitol Building

# The Star

## The County Paper.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2 PER YEAR—ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.

SIXTH YEAR—NO. 19.

### TRAGEDY AVERTED; BAY SCHOOL HOUSE LAST NIGHT'S MEET.

The biggest crowd ever assembled at a county meeting was packed and jammed into the auditorium at Central School last night. People were sitting three deep in the pupils' desks, were standing in the aisles, and the back of the auditorium was a seething mass of standing people. Suddenly the lights went out. Everybody was advised to keep still and the program would go on. A little girl from the country was standing on the stage, ready to contest in the impromptu speaking. Then a flashlight in the audience showed smoke issuing from the stairs—the main egress. At the same time a cry of fire was heard. There was an immediate stampede for the stairs. Mr. E. S. Drake, Prof. McCluer, Mr. Keller, Mr. Donald Marshall, Mr. Emile Gex and others tried to check the crowd in the rear of the hall. Dr. Shipp took his stand at the head

of the fire escape on the north side, reassuring people. A short circuit had set the wires on fire. Some man rushed with his cap and tried to put out the flame. Many families were separated and frantic calls were made for lost children. Nervousness and intense anxiety were felt by all. Some of the girls, ready to go on the stage, were seen crying hysterically out on the grounds. With people in town from all over the county, the program had to go on. Nobody would go back in the school building, even when all was safe and the lights turned on a little. So the big crowd moved to the courthouse, where seating capacity was far exceeded, the walls, tables, side rooms and entrance hall to the court room being filled with people. Only a few minor accidents were reported, but nobody but themselves, and God knows what anguish was suffered by parents cut off from their children in the darkness and danger of that old wooden building.

### ILLINOIS CENTRAL NOW ACTIVELY OWNS G. & S. I. ROAD—FROM CHICAGO TO THE GULF.

A message from Jackson Wednesday stated that all legal and official obstacles toward the completion of the merger which has been pending before the Mississippi Railroad Commission for some time between the Illinois Central and the Gulf & Ship Island railroads were obliterated when the Mississippi Railroad Commission passed a formal order authorizing the completion of the arrangement. As stated by the commission the order is clear cut and imposes no strings of any kind, which means that the arrangement which has heretofore been tentative and informal is now clear for completion with the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Mississippi State Railroad Commission. The press telegram also stated that this would be good news all down the Gulf & Ship Island territory, where press and public have been ripe for the change since last fall, when negotiations first began. Even with the temporary arrangement

ments which have been in force during the past three months, improvement in transportation and traffic between Jackson and Gulfport and all G. & S. I. points has been marked and the action taken by the Mississippi Railroad Commission will be a signal for real jubilation all down the line. Just what attitude the commission would take toward giving formal State authorization to the proposed union of the two lines was not doubted and it was not believed there would be any obstacle to the negotiations. As to the proposed leasing of the Vicksburg Route by the I. C. Railroad, that is still in doubt, as the matter is not even in shape for consideration by the State Railroad Commission as yet. Now that the state has been given legal sanction and the property of the I. C. and S. I. now the ownership of the Illinois Central, the latter will put into operation an extensive and intensive change of management, all to the good of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

### WORK AND PLAY AT S. J. A.

**Basketball.** Not without regret will we close our basketball season after the game with Bay Hi. Although our teams have not come out victorious in all their games, nor even a majority of them, we are as proud of the days as if they had won the championship of the South. Notwithstanding the fact that several of their opponents were superior to them in many respects, they fought unceasingly, and if they did not win, were defeated by a close margin. Their sportsmanship has received favorable comment on all sides. Both teams are eagerly awaiting the distribution of the letters, which are to be given as a reward for constant attendance at practice. We hope that all the girls, encouraged by this year's success, will work with an earnest endeavor to bring the Jays over the top in 1926.

### Lincoln Medal Won.

At last our suspense is ended! The Lincoln essay contest has come to a close. The medal given by the Illinois Watch Company was won by Dolly Rose of Class '25. Those deserving honorable mention are: Bessie Batson, Oleah Mauffray and Jennie Green.

The judges of the contest were Brothers Macarius, Peter and Gerald, of S. S. C.

### Playwheels.

The Playwheels of S. J. A. have been elected by Miss O'Donnell, to give an inspirational program, in the Convention auditorium, from 5 to 6, Friday evening.

Although given a short notice to prepare the program, they will do their best to uphold the title, Dramatic Club.

### Who Is?

Bessie's Pestilence? Carmel's Death? Our Tribe? The Big Black Hero? The Young Vamp? Ellen Dan Cap? Zoe's Inspiration? Laura's Demosthenes? Mary's Mercury? Alice B's Centurion? Big Mary's Apollo?

### "The Freshmen"

Some day we expect to hear Leon playing over the radio as the "Wonder Saxophonist," providing he does not soon get a life sentence for disturbing the peace. One reason Leon is such a very sweet girl is because she is a very sweet girl.

### LOCAL OFFICERS "MAKE HAUL."

Sheriff J. V. Bontemps and Chief of Police Albert Jones Capture Three Cases of Genuine Imported Stock Same Taken to Courthouse and Charge Made.

Tom Noto, who resides in Dunbar avenue, at the foot of St. George street, was charged with having liquor in his possession yesterday morning, when Sheriff Jos. V. Bontemps and Chief of Police Albert Jones entered his yard and took from a barn building four cases of Holland gin, "genuine imported stuff," as the chief tells. The raid was made at 10 o'clock. Both officers drove in the place and carried out the goods, which were taken to the sheriff's office in the courthouse, where it is held as evidence.

An affidavit was made against Noto, charging him with having liquor in his possession. He gave a bond of \$250.00 for his appearance in Justice Breach's court for Monday morning, when he will be given a hearing.

### RUSSELL MANIERI IN BILOXI MARCH 24.

Local fans and others are interested in the announcement Russell Manieri, the gentleman fighter from Bay St. Louis, and the pride of the American Navy, will enter the arena at Biloxi, benefit local American Legion Post at that place, on the evening of March 24th, when he will try conclusions with "Long Boy" Peterson.

Russell is a general favorite with all who know him, a boy of an esteemed citizen Edward Manieri, while Peterson is equally popular with the people at Biloxi and vicinity, from where he hails. The event is looked forward to with much interest, and no doubt many local fans will journey to Biloxi for the event.

### PLASTER FELL ON MAN BEING SHAVED; CUT NECK; SUES.

New Orleans, La., March 5.—Because a piece of plastering fell on the head of a barber shaving him, causing the barber to cut a deep nick in the neck, Edward McCabe yesterday filed suit against a local realty company for \$5,700, alleging damages, pain and bills for treatment. The realty company as owners of the building, are alleged by McCabe to be responsible for the damage done to him by the plaster.

### HONORS FOR FEBRUARY

First Honors: Seniors: Jennie Green, Oleah Mauffray and Marie Favre. Eighth Grade: Hazel Kergusson. Seventh Grade: Anna Mae Batson and Mary Green. Fifth Grade: Nicola St. Angelo. Fourth Grade: Frances Reddie. Second Honors: Seniors: Adrienne Combe, Ellen Webb. Juniors: Mary Scobie, Clara

### E. VAN WHITFIELD CARRIES ELECTION FOR CO. ASSESSOR

Special Election Held in Hancock Last Saturday Gives Whitfield Majority of 13 Over Closest Opponent—Decision by Board Necessary.

E. Van Whitfield of Bay St. Louis was declared the successful candidate in last Saturday's special election to fill the vacancy caused by the death of F. C. Bordages, Sr., county assessor. He ran ahead of the other opponents pretty well, save in the case of Charles Murphy, of Logtown precinct, who finally came out with 13 votes lacking to tie with Whitfield. In fact, the election was so close it was not known who was elected until the middle of the week. There were doubts about several who voted and about certain boxes not coming in on time, etc. The county clerk, E. G. Green, was re-elected for a legal opinion, and later Chairman R. L. Gennin, of the Hancock county board of election commissioners, wired the Attorney General at Jackson for an opinion in the premises, and the latter's ruling was in line with that of the county attorney.

After a careful canvass of the vote cast, it was finally decreed E. Van Whitfield was the successful contestant and he was officially awarded the election. He left for Mobile Thursday afternoon and is expected to return to Bay St. Louis today, resuming his connection with a little business interest in Mobile, and will make his home in the Vonnau cottage, in State street, assuming his duties at once.

The vote over the county Saturday gave: Whitfield 351, Murphy 238, Green 129. E. Van Whitfield has served the county in various capacities, county surveyor, circuit clerk and sheriff and tax collector. He is fully equipped and experienced for the work upon which he will embark and will make a successor to the worthy late F. C. Bordages, Sr., whose ability and experience had no equal in the State.

There is much satisfaction expressed at the success of Tuesday's meeting at the courthouse, when the public met with the Board of Supervisors, and Bay St. Louis was given all that it asked for. It is possible to have the work of hard surfacing the roads of the city during the present year. The law already existing defines the course of action in the premises and no delays will impede the success of the project.

### COUNTY TO GIVE CITY \$180,000.00 BOND PROCEEDS

Amount To Be Appropriated For Hard Surfacing Streets in City Citizens Appear Before Supervisors Request Granted Waveland Assisted

Bay St. Louis was the proceeds of a bond for \$180,000.00 and Waveland an additional \$50,000.00 and a survey for building of sea wall and a meeting of the Board of Supervisors held with a delegation of citizens at the courthouse Tuesday morning. A mass meeting held at the courthouse last Friday night, presided over by W. J. Gex, chairman of a committee created for the purpose of devising ways and means of hard surfacing the streets of the city, a number of citizens met Tuesday morning and the Board of Supervisors and requested that the order for an election giving Bay St. Louis \$100,000.00 and Waveland \$50,000.00, the latter for sea wall purposes, be rescinded; that the full amount of \$180,000.00 be given the city.

Mr. Gex made it plain in his address to the Board that the city of Bay St. Louis contributes largely to the tax fund of the county and as the county timber and other values were constantly dwindling, the city would in the immediate future be called upon to probably pay a larger proportion. The matter was discussed at length and from many angles. It was shown the city was entitled to all it was asking for; that there was no animosity towards Waveland; that the Board could give Bay St. Louis the full amount it asked and yet assist Waveland.

Preceding Mr. Gex, Hon. R. L. Gennin, representing Waveland's sea wall commission and interests, addressed the Board, during which time he had occasion to call attention to the county's link in the premises of issuing bonds was \$200,000.00 rather than \$180,000.00, and taking cognizance of this fact, he said, it was possible to give, by a re-arrangement of figures, Waveland and Bay St. Louis a larger amount.

Following Mr. Gex's address, the main one of the meeting, other speakers were Mrs. Donald Marshall, Mrs. C. L. Harris and Mrs. William Bennett, all of Bay St. Louis, and Mr. rather Costello, for Waveland. The Board voted to rescind the order for the election; that in lieu one would be called to give Bay St. Louis \$180,000.00 and Waveland \$50,000.00. That an additional county tax of 1 mill would give Waveland another \$50,000.00 (in ten years) and that a civil engineer would be employed to make a complete survey for the building of the sea wall and sea levee. In addition, the county was promised it would be willing to issue the bonds of Waveland (backed by the county) for any additional amount necessary to supplement the \$100,000.00 to be given by the county for the building of the Waveland sea levee. It is expected including the replacing of the front road.

### TOURIST CAMP GIVEN NAME.

"Camp Shore-By" Selected by Committee of Award—Mrs. Milton A. Phillips Captures Prize Offered by Bay St. Louis Study Club.

The committee of award, representing the Bay St. Louis Study Club, yesterday afternoon awarded Mrs. Milton A. Phillips, of this city, the prize for naming the proposed auto tourist camp. "Camp Shore-By" was the name selected. It won because it was short and carried an appropriate meaning. The prize is a trip to New Orleans, a blue-plate lunch at Holmes' and a theatre ticket to the Strand.

After the process of elimination had taken place, "Shore-By," "Miss Magnolia," "Camp Chicapoula" were the three names voted for by the committee.

### CATHOLIC PREP SCHOOL TOURNAMENT.

National interest is manifested over the forthcoming Catholic Prep School Tournament, to be held in Chicago, March 11-12, under the auspices of the Associated Press service sent out this from Chicago Thursday.

Three Catholic championship prep school basketball teams have been accepted for the national Catholic prep basketball tournament to be held here March 11-12, under the auspices of Loyola University. They are St. Stanislaus of Bay St. Louis, Miss. St. Mary's of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and Rockhurst Academy, of Kansas City.

### PEOPLE'S BUILDING AND LOAN ASS'N DECLARES 7 PER C.

At the annual meeting of the People's Building and Loan Association, held at its office in the historic building, Main street, on Tuesday afternoon, a dividend of 7 per cent was declared, to be paid on all installment shares and also to holders of paid-up stock.

The reading of the secretary's annual report was of unusual interest; the financial statement was the largest in the history of the association, in addition to declaring 7 per cent, a surplus was reserved. This was the 25th annual meeting, and during these years, he said to the credit of the management, not one loss was ever sustained.

In conformity with the by-laws, the stockholders proceeded to elect a board of directors for the ensuing year with the following result: J. A. Breath, John Somack, George E. West, Joe O. Mauffray, Sylvan J. Ladner, Chas. G. Moreau, Mrs. Elizabeth Boudin. In turn the directors elected the officers, namely: President, Charles G. Moreau. Vice President, Joseph O. Mauffray.

Treasurer, George R. Rea. Secretary, J. A. Breath. With Mrs. Boudin elected to the board of directors, this is the first time a local business institution has elected a woman to its executive board. Mrs. Boudin is a well known business woman, and her selection will redound to the further success of the People's Association.

Mr. S. J. Ladner, the other new member of the board of directors, is well known as city auditor and secretary of Bay St. Louis, and his connection with the city's affairs and realty values, to say nothing of his personal popularity in business circles, will bring added prestige.

The other members of the board and officers were re-elected. The People's Building and Loan Association is now issuing paid-up stock certificates, and paying on time the annual dividend. All holders of such stock of record of March 1st will receive 7 per cent. The association has never paid less than 6 per cent.

### A SECOND FLORIDA, PERHAPS.

Property Values Along Gulf Coast Soaring—Harrison County Sea Wall and Railroad Merger Give New Impetus.

All eyes are turned to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. It is the wonder and the immediate future, it will oultrain California and Florida. Already, since the I. C. and G. & S. I. merger is announced and Harrison county is building a two-million-dollar sea wall and other improvements are announced, the trend of property is upward. Here is a story that will bear this out. B. L. Kress writes the New Orleans Business-Times the following: It is also noted the T-P. and other big newspapers from away are giving this section much space and attention. Mr. Kress says:

A Gulf Coast real estate agent had for a long time carried in his listings a beach property for which the owner was asking \$5,500. Two weeks ago he was offered \$10,000 for the frontage. The owner lives away from the Coast, and the agent telegraphed for authorization to complete the deal. The answer came two days later—by mail. "Don't want to sell," said the owner, "but might consider a deal for \$12,500."

That is a characteristic of conditions on the Gulf Coast at present. If you should incautiously say "boom" in the hearing of a conservative business man of Gulfport or Biloxi, you would be in serious danger of personal assault. There is no "boom" on the Coast, they assure you, and what's more, nobody wants a boom. Outside money is needed, and they don't want to see it away before developments start.

Nevertheless, there has been within the past few weeks an unparalleled advance in the price of beach frontage, averaging 50 per cent increase on the value of frontage last summer, according to reliable real estate men, bankers and business men. That represents an enhancement in value of some 2,000,000 in the twenty-seven miles of beach property.

"There has been a greater advancement in values in the past eighteen months than in the entire preceding twenty-year period," declares E. S. Beale, president of the Biloxi Chamber of Commerce, and well known real estate and insurance man.

Two factors are working for the development of the Coast. One is the voting last fall of \$2,000,000 bonds for the construction of fourteen miles of sea wall along the Harrison county beach. That has accounted for part of the rise in realty values.

### MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST ON THRESHOLD OF ERA OF UNPARALLELED PROSPERITY IN HISTORY

While the Mississippi Gulf Coast has made wonderful strides in its history from time to time until today it has attracted the interest of many from over the country, at no time has it been so close to when the scheme of things will be all wrought over again on a new section practically reborn.

The Mississippi Coast country is not only where nature smiles best but longest. In other sections where the population of the country has flocked in large numbers, one section to the extreme west and the other to the extreme southeast, the winters are Eden-like, but it is here where the lavishness of equable climate is spread over the entire twelve-month period. Nowhere does the salubrious climate remain with the changing seasons. Nature has truly been all generous to the Gulf Coast; man has failed in the work of development.

But this order of things is to be somewhat changed. The Gulf Coast is calling the interest of bigger things and events correct. The dawn of another day is at hand; a regeneration is at hand and he who lives in this section is blessed.

It is hardly necessary to go into details. Those of our readers and others posted with the trend of events along the Coast within the past year know well of the things that have taken place and of others due for the immediate future. Within the past year the Gulf cities, the "strand of seven cities," have forged ahead in the category of modern things that almost read akin to Arabian Nights. Where yesterday stood the village we were wont to dream our lives away, today are the makings of a live and energetic city. The very being throbs with new blood, pulsating impulses that spur on and win.

### LIQUOR SHIPPED AS OYSTER SHELLS FROM BILOXI.

Liquor Valued at \$50,000 Seized in Kansas City; Irish Whiskey, Champagne and Wine.

Kansas City, Mo., March 5.—Liquor valued at \$50,000 was seized in a freight car in the Missouri Pacific Railroad yard here late last night. The car contained 600 cases, which included Irish whiskey, champagne, wine and other liquors.

Consignment from Biloxi, Miss., to H. A. Burke, of Kansas City, the bill of lading showed the shipment to be oyster shells.

The seizure followed an investigation of Chief of Police Shreve has been conducting since the recent discovery that bootleg whiskey was brought into Kansas City from Biloxi in the guise of oyster shells. The traffic came to light with the arrest of three policemen, who were robbing a bootlegger's cache.

### MERCHANT HAS SERIOUS MISF.

Anthony Scafide Loses Little Finger of Right Hand in Singular Accident—Circular Saw Removes Digit Completely—Victim Shows Unusual Courage.

Anthony Scafide, local resident and well known business man, was the victim of an unusual accident Tuesday, when he lost the little finger of his right hand when it came in contact with a circular saw.

It appears Mr. Scafide was in the work shop of the Claud Monti Garage, corner Union and Hancock streets, standing on one side of a bench upon which the saw was located. He handled a bolt across to someone taking a turning, bringing his hand back; in some unaccountable manner it came in contact with a saw then in motion, with the result as stated.

The loss of blood was appalling. Dr. Horton attended him as quickly as possible, taking twelve stitches before the injury could be dressed. Mr. Scafide took no anesthetic, but, on the contrary, showed unusual courage. His suffering and the shock of it all was considerable, but he stood it all and bears the injury in such manner that he is doing nicely.

ership of the G. & S. I. that section of the Coast known as Gulfport and Biloxi enjoyed this winter the greatest influx of winter tourists ever known. Only a few nights ago a member of the board of directors of one of the newest and largest hotels on the Coast, arriving unannounced, was forced to take shelter for the night in one of the bedrooms of this hostelry, and it is common to turn away guests daily. Other hotels are planned and soon we will have a string similar to those in California and Florida, every new one to outstrip the other in size and magnificence. Necessary by the patronage that will come seeking this new Gulf Coast.

As for our own immediate self, here in Bay St. Louis, we are building hard surfaced streets over the entire city. To have proposed this only a year or two since, one would have been instantly adjudged insane or dealing in things ephemeral.

Again, the building of the bridge to connect this extreme west section of the Coast with the balance of the territory, is well a matter to be accomplished this year. Only a few days hence the executive bodies of both sections referred to above will be called upon to pass judgment and favor on the proposition.

A bridge across the Bay of St. Louis, the same as the famous Gandy bridge at St. Petersburg and the bridge across the Bay of Biscayne, at Miami, Florida, is a time back was considered well-nigh impossible. It was said while the project was feasible and practicable, the cost was prohibitive and no one would entertain the idea. Today several concerns are knocking at our door, ready to build the proposed bridge. Above have looked upon the building of such a structure as some far-off fancy; an object to be only entertained in some dream-like seance. Today, the project is nothing but a thing so natural that we wonder no more. The only wonder is why now build it. A bridge across Lake Pontchartrain to Bay St. Louis and the balance of the Gulf Coast was always looked upon as an idle speculation, today the matter of who will build such a bridge first is a matter of litigation in Louisiana courts.

### UP-TO-DATE BAKERY.

Messrs. Vic C. Cuevas and Maurice Perre, proprietors Perfection Bakery, Main street, have completed one of the most modern and attractive buildings for their business. It is thoroughly up-to-date.











